(d) the details of the objections ascribed by the Government in clearing this project; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to remove these objections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) The Detailed Project Report of Agra Barrage Project in Uttar Pradesh was received in Central Water Commission in April, 1996.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The project Report has been examined in Central Water Commission and appraisal of some aspects have been completed. The State Government is required to sort out the remaining techno-economic issues.

[English]

Tourist Centres in Losses

1814. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state ;

(a) the total number of tourist centres at present in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the number of tourist centres are running in losses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the year-wise details of the losses incurred by each of these centres during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d) There are several places in the country which are visited by tourists. These centres, however, cannot be classified as loss making or otherwise.

Faults in Policy Decision

1815. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the poor track record of the major and medium sectors of irrigation, the Union Government propose to set up an enquiry commission to ascertain faults in policy decision, the reasons for delay and corruption in various stages of the projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to contain corruption?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) The Major and Medium irrigation projects are implemented by the State Governments from State funds and Plan allocations and they are responsible for proper and timely implementation of the projects. However, wherever specific instances of irregularities are reported the concerned State Governments are expected to take suitable action in the matter.

[Translation]

Colleges for Deaf and Dumb

1816. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government and private colleges separately for deaf and dumb persons in Maharashtra;

(b) whether all these colleges are recognised by the Government; and

(c) if so, the scheme formulated by the Government to run such private institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The Government is not aware of any colleges exclusively for deaf and dumb persons affiliated to any of the Universities in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Restoration of LPG & Telephone Quota to MP

1817. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after withdrawing the gas coupen and telephone connection allotment facilities from the Members of Lok Sabha, any special arrangements have been made for the needy persons for allotment of gas and telephone connections and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) while the facility of gas and telephone connection is still available to the Rajya Sabha Members then the reasons for which the Members of Lok Sabha have been deprived of this previlege; and

(c) whether the Government would consult the Hon. Speaker and get this facility restored to the Members of Lok Sabha and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The discretionary quota for allotment of telephone connections of all MPs including Rajya Sabha MPs has not been withdrawn at any point of time. However, the discretionary quota for release of LPG connections for Member of Lok Sabha has been discontinued. The decision to discontinue the discretionary quota for release of LPG connections to